

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mali
Program Title:	Shared Governance Through Decentralization
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	688-008
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$4,692,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,766,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2002
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2012

Summary: Since 1991, the Government of Mali has been committed to moving more responsibility and money from the national government to local communities. USAID's new Democracy and Governance program will work primarily at the community level to help Malians better govern themselves. USAID will bring together local elected officials, business, and civic organizations to solve their own development problems. In 250 communities technical assistance and training will be provided to: a) create policies that help communities better govern themselves; b) increase communities' ability to collect and use tax revenue transparently; and c) increase participation of women in the democratic process.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Increase participation and partnership in local communities (\$1,430,000 DA). USAID will provide training to key civic associations, to local governments, to businesses and to at least 500 of their members in how to receive better services from their government, how to implement conflict prevention and how to encourage information dissemination on civic rights and responsibilities in newly established community centers. This training will allow these groups to work together to meet their own development challenges whether it be the need for clean drinking water and a better irrigation system for their cotton crop, or a new open air market to sell their goods, or keeping more children from dropping out of school. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Improve policies and finances of local government (\$2,313,000 DA). USAID will provide assistance to local governments to establish financial management and accounting systems. These systems will allow local elected officials more financial autonomy but will also guarantee that they are accountable to voters. Local governments will learn: fiscal planning and budgeting, fair and transparent contracting practices, accounting and auditing procedures, and anti-corruption awareness. Training will be provided to approximately 500 financial staff, national government representatives, and local elected officials. In addition, approximately forty computers with Internet capability and software for monitoring and evaluation will be provided to national institutions to assist them in making policies and monitoring progress as they shift responsibilities and finances to local communities. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Increase women's influence over community decision-making (\$551,000 DA). USAID will implement a pilot activity to increase women's participation in decision-making at the local level. Training and guidance will be provided to 200 women in targeted communities on how to develop small businesses from soap-making and cloth-dyeing to processing shea butter, an organic nut extract, for cosmetic products. The economic empowerment and leadership skills these women gain from these activities will allow them to participate more effectively in community decision-making and local governance. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Support local government elections (\$398,000 DA). Local elections will be held nationwide in 2003 and 2004. USAID will provide the Malian government with logistical support and training for poll workers,

electoral agents and electoral commissions. USAID will also provide training to twenty civil society organizations at both the national and local levels in: the importance of voting, civic responsibilities in elections, voting procedures, elections monitoring, electoral fraud and political corruption. Special emphasis will be placed on women's participation. It is anticipated that this assistance will increase voter participation to at least 50 percent. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

FY 2004 Program:

Increase participation and partnership in local communities (\$1,120,000 DA). USAID intends to continue helping elected officials, civic associations and businesses work together to solve the problems in their community. The training program may expand to include codes of ethical conduct; forming alliances between the national government, business and civic associations; fostering better conflict management; encouraging ways to involve the public in community planning and budgeting; and promoting information exchange between communities by funding four community learning and information centers. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Improve policies and finances of local government (\$1,960,000 DA). USAID plans to support an on-going program aimed at strengthening the financial management and accounting systems at the community level. Once management and accountability systems are established and functional, USAID intends to focus its effort on helping local governments to increase their financial resources through training in simplified and efficient tax collection systems; provision of equipment; anti-corruption awareness campaigns; and sensitization campaigns to encourage people to pay taxes. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Increase women's influence over community decision-making (\$586,000 DA). USAID anticipates building on the impact of the pilot program begun in FY 2003 to promote women's participation in decision-making at the local level. After assisting female associations or groups to start making money and become economically empowered, the next step will be to provide them with the necessary tools and skills to play an active public role. In that regard, training may be provided in leadership skills, public speaking, advocacy and lobbying, conflict resolution and negotiation techniques. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Support local government elections (\$100,000 DA). USAID intends to follow-up on actions launched in FY 2003 that support the administration of the 2003-2004 local government elections. Special emphasis is expected to be placed on training of candidates, particularly women, in campaign strategies. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Performance and Results: In this new strategy, USAID will build on the work it has done during the past five years in helping over 1,200 civic associations participate in the democratic process. These associations have learned how to better organize themselves so that they could be a powerful advocate to government on behalf of their members for increased health services, more schools and greater economic opportunities. The logical next step is to forge partnerships between these associations with both the local government and businesses to better meet development needs.

USAID expects that the program will have noticeable impact in 75% of the 250 local governments targeted. In other words, approximately one third of the total population of Mali will directly or indirectly benefit from the program. It is anticipated that at the end of the program local governments will be able to: fully exercise their roles and responsibilities; design, in a participatory manner, their development plans and budgets; mobilize more local resources and manage them efficiently to meet local development needs; form alliances with business and civic associations at the local level to carry out joint development interventions; and establish mechanisms to resolve local conflicts peacefully. It is anticipated also that local elections will be open, fair and transparent; and that the number of women holding and retaining offices in local governments and civic associations will increase appreciably.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mali

688-008 Shared Governance Through Decentralization	DA
Through September 30, 2001	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2002	
Obligations	1,636
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	1,636
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	1,636
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA	
Obligations	4,692
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	4,692
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	3,766
Future Obligations	37,906
Est. Total Cost	48,000